

*Transit
Please attach to
1/20/3*

*See
file*

Northfleet Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended, 1935

BY

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

GRAVESEND:

GRAVESEND AND DARTFORD REPORTER, LTD,

Northfleet Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended December, 1935

BY

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

GRAVESEND :
GRAVESEND AND DARTFORD REPORTER.

Northfleet Urban District Council.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

MR. GEORGE GOUGE, J.P., C.C.

MR. GEORGE BUTCHER, J.P.

MR. JAMES CARLTON

MR. JAMES HAYNES

MR. FRANK WALTER HUMPHREY, J.P.

MRS. G. S. LANE

Clerk and Solicitor :

MR. F. W. JONES

Assistant Clerk :

MR. W. G. FUTCHER

Medical Officer of Health :

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Maternity and Child Welfare Officer :

JAMES CRAWFORD, M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector :

J. DYSON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Meat and Foods Inspector

Health Visitor :

MISS E. A. COOPER, C.M.B.

THE URBAN DISTRICT OF NORTHFLEET.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1935.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Northfleet Urban District Council.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report of the Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year ended December, 1935.

The contents and arrangements are based on the Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector, under Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, is embodied in this Report.

I am indebted to Mr. Gough, the Vaccination Officer for Northfleet sub-district, for the Vaccination Report.

I would take this opportunity of thanking the Council for continued interest and support.

Your obedient Servant,

M. F. McDONNELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,

Northfleet, Kent.

May, 1936.

INDEX.

	PAGE
Ambulance Facilities ...	14
Area of District ...	5
Bacteriological Examinations ...	20
Bakehouses ...	30
Births and Birth Rate ...	7, 8
Cancer ...	19
Cesspool Emptying ...	42
Clinics ...	10, 11, 38, 40
Closet Accommodation ...	28, 42
Dairies and Cowsheds ...	42
Deaths and Death Rate ...	8
Diphtheria ...	15
Disinfection and Disinfestation ...	20, 42
Drainage ...	26, 27, 28, 42
Enteric Fever ...	15
Erysipelas ...	22
Factories and Workshops ...	37
Food Inspection ...	28, 42
Health Visitor's Report ...	39
Hospitals ...	12
Hospital, Isolation ...	12, 13
Housing Conditions ...	35, 36
Housing and Housing Statistics ...	5, 41
Housing Act Inspections ...	36, 37
Infant Mortality ...	8
Infectious Diseases ...	14, 15, 16
Inspections, Summary of ...	41, 42
Laboratory Facilities ...	20
Lodging Houses ...	30
Maternity and Child Welfare ...	10
Meat Inspection ...	42
Milk Supplied ...	28, 42
Notices Served ...	41
Notifications of Infectious Diseases ...	14
Nursing Arrangements, etc. ...	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	22
Pneumonia ...	22
Population ...	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	15
Rateable Value ...	5
Rats ...	42
Rivers and Streams ...	26
Sanitary Accommodation ...	42
Sanitary Improvements ...	42
SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT ...	41
Scarlet Fever ...	15
Scavenging ...	26, 42
Small Pox ...	16
Staff ...	11
Slaughter Houses ...	29, 42
Statistical Tables ...	9
Tuberculosis ...	16, 23
Venereal Diseases ...	17
Verminous Persons ...	20
Water Supply ...	25

ANNUAL REPORT.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (as constituted at 30th June, 1935) acres	...	3,770
Population (Census 1931)		16,223
(Estimated 1935)		17,660
Number of Inhabited houses (31st March, 1935)	...	4,501
„ „ New houses erected year ended 31st December, 1935		282
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931)	...	3,723
Rateable value 31st December, 1935		£99,904
Sum represented by a penny rate (1935)		£407

The issue of a special series of supplementary County Census Volumes is due to the fact that under the operation of the Local Government Act of 1929 the area and boundaries of all Boroughs, Urban Districts, Rural Districts and Civil Parishes in the country are undergoing a comprehensive review and that, in consequence, a large number of them will be subject to substantial rearrangement within a few years of the census date.

In the case of Kent Administrative County, the changes set in motion by the 1929 Act were put into operation by the Kent Review Order, 1934 (Ministry of Health Order No. 78186), which came into effect on the 1st April, 1934, and the County of Kent Review Order, 1935 (Ministry of Health Order No. 79448) which came into effect on the 1st April, 1935, and the present volume shows the position as a result of the changes of area under these Orders, the Ministry of Health Provisional Order Confirmation (Maidstone Extension) Act, 1932, and the Canterbury Extension Act, 1933. There has been no other change of boundary affecting the County between the date of the Census and the 30th June, 1935.

Tables A and B are designed primarily with a view to identifying the changes themselves, while tables C, D and E consist of a re-statement of the principal census facts in respect of the changed conditions, statistics of unchanged areas being repeated in tables C and D for convenience of general reference. It is to be observed that the statistics themselves refer in all cases to the population enumerated on the 26th April, 1931, though the areas for which they are given are those as existing and as constituted on the 30th June, 1935.

General descriptions, definitions, reservations, etc., set out in the tables or textual commentary of Part I of the County Volume apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the figures now presented.

AREAS, WHICH HAVE BEEN ALTERED BETWEEN 26TH APRIL, 1931, AND 30TH JUNE, 1935, SHOWING CONSTITUTIONS AS AT THE LATTER DATE IN TERMS OF CONSTITUTIONS AS AT THE FORMER DATE, TOGETHER WITH PARTICULARS OF ACREAGE AND POPULATION.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Reference to Authority.	Existing Area i.e. as constituted at 30th June, 1935.	Composition of Existing Area in terms of areas as constituted at 26th April, 1931	Acreage (Land and Inland Water).	Population		Existing Areas in which the balance (if any) of 1931 Area named in col. "c" is now situated.
				1921.	1931.	
D	Northfleet U.D. Northfleet C.P.	Northfleet U.D. (part) Northfleet C.P. (part)	3,770 3,770	15,571 15,571	16,225 16,223	} Gravesend M.B. and Strood R.D.

PHYSICAL FEATURES, GENERAL CHARACTERS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The District is situated wholly in the County of Kent, some 20 miles from London, and occupies an area of 3,770 acres.

It is bounded on the North side by the River Thames, on the South by the Rural District of Strood and the Rural District of Dartford, on the East by the Borough of Gravesend, and on the West by the Urban District of Swanscombe.

The surface of the District is undulating or hilly. The soil is gravel, sand, Thanet sand, brick earth, alluvial and London clay.

The sub-soil is chalk. This formation underlies practically the whole of the District.

The principal industries are the manufacture of cement and paper, and cable works.

Average numbers of persons employed is as follows:—

A.P.C.M. (Bevan's Works)	...	...	...	740
Bowater's Paper Mills	...	...	...	750
Henley's Cable Works	...	...	...	1,650
Amalgamated Press, Ltd.	...	...	...	600
Britannia Lead Works	...	...	...	74
Gravesend Welding & Electrical Engineering Works				30

In the Rural parts, market gardening and general agricultural work is the chief employment.

Extent of Unemployment.

The average number of persons unemployed in the area is 440, which is about 3% of the population and compares very favourably with similar districts in the Country. As the number of insured persons actually resident in Northfleet is not available at the local Ministry of Labour Exchange it is not possible to give the percentage of actual workers unemployed.

Average weekly number of persons in receipt of Outdoor Relief during the year ended 31st March, 1936	...	...	...	...	190
Amount paid in Outdoor Relief year ended 31st March, 1936	...	...	...	...	£4,963 4s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.
Number of Northfleet persons admitted to the Public Assistance Institutions, during the year ended 31st March, 1936	...	...	...	...	59

Vital Statistics of the District.

BIRTH RATE. During the year there were 291 births, equivalent to an annual birth rate of 16.5 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is an increase of 0.1 per 1,000 on last year.

INFANT MORTALITY. 10 (1 illegitimate) deaths occurred among children under one year of age, which is equivalent to 34 per 1,000 births, as against 57 for the whole country.

DEATH RATE. The general death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 12.3, which can be considered very satisfactory.

*The numbers of live births, stillbirths and deaths are those Registered (but excluding re-registrations) during the calendar year (*i.e.* 1st January—31st December, inclusive) adjusted only for inward and outward transfers. They will differ, therefore, from unadjusted figures compiled locally either for the calendar year or for a period of fifty-two weeks.

*The deaths are classified under the headings given in the Abridged List of Causes, as used in England and Wales and Northern Ireland (see page xxiv of the Manual of the International List of Causes of Death—1931). The attention of Medical Officers is drawn to the “ Rules for the selection of one from two or more jointly stated causes of death ” which appears on page xxviii of the Manual. The classification of some deaths is modified in the light of fuller information obtained from the certifying practitioner in response to special enquiries, the principal subjects of these enquiries being indicated in a table published in the annual reports of the Registrar-General. This possible source of discrepancy between the returns of the Registrar-General and those compiled locally should be borne in mind particularly in regard to the causes of death dealt with in that table.

			M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate	283	143	140	Birth Rate (R.G.)—16.5
	Illegitimate	8	4	4	
Deaths	...	217	127	90	Death Rate (R.G.)—12.3
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth—					
	From Sepsis—Nil.		Other Causes—Nil.		
Deaths of Infants under one year :—					
	Legitimate—9.		Illegitimate—1.		Total—10.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)—Nil.					
„	„	Whooping Cough (all ages)—nil.			
„	„	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)—nil.			

ALTERATION IN BOUNDARY. Where an area has been subject to a change in boundary during the year, the statistics supplied are composite figures comprising—unless otherwise indicated on form S.D. 30.—the records of the former area for the portion of the year prior to the date of change and those of the altered area for the remainder of the year. In such case dual population figures in black and red ink respectively, will be found on S.D. 30; the red figure being the mid-year estimate of population for the area as now constituted and the black figures being a modified estimate specially designed for use with the composite records of births, deaths and notifiable diseases of the year 1935.

*General Register Office, Somerset House.

S.D. 55.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis) England and Wales, London,
of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates,) 121 Great Towns and 140
and Case-rates for certain Infectious) Smaller Towns.
Diseases in the year 1935.)

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales.	121 County Boro's. and Great Towns including London.	140 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County.
	Rates per 1,000 Population.			
BIRTHS :—				
Live	14.7	14.8	14.8	13.3
Still	0.62	0.68	0.64	0.52
DEATHS :—				
All Causes ...	11.7	11.8	11.2	11.4
Typhoid and Para- typhoid fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.00
Scarlet fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04
Diphtheria ...	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.06
Influenza ...	0.18	0.16	0.17	0.11
Violence ...	0.52	0.45	0.41	0.51
NOTIFICATIONS :				
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	2.96	3.19	2.75	2.64
Diphtheria ...	1.60	1.96	1.34	2.25
Enteric fever ...	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.05
Erysipelas ...	0.42	0.48	0.37	0.45
Pneumonia ...	1.15	1.36	0.98	0.89
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
Deaths under 1 year of age	57	62	55	58
Deaths from Diarr- hoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.7	7.9	3.8	11.2
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1.68	) Not available		
Others	2.42			
Total	4.10			
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (<i>i.e.</i> , Live and Still).			
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1.61	) Not available		
Others	2.32			
Total	3.93			
NOTIFICATIONS :—				
Puerperal fever ...	3.60	4.55	2.76	4.32
Puerperal pyrexia	9.44	11.14	8.25	11.89

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Midwives.

This service is under the control of the County Council.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The work at the Centre continues very usefully and efficiently. The average weekly attendance at the Centre has been 87. The average weekly attendance for free milk was 37. Up to December 31st, 1935, 2,161 children have attended the Centre. The total attendances of children during the year were 1,506. There were 121 new attendances. 3,500 lbs. of dried milk were distributed free. It is found that young mothers are becoming more aware of the benefits of attending such a Centre and are taking advantage of the facilities offered.

The Centre is open on three days of the week, on two of which the Medical Officer attends with the Health Visitor and on the third the latter attends alone for the sale of milk. The Health Visitor, who is a fully trained nurse as well as a certified midwife, also attends the Ante-Natal Clinic.

Infant Welfare Centres.

(a)	Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Council	...	...	...	...	...	1
(b)	Number of Centres provided and maintained by Voluntary Associations	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(c)	Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year :—						
	(i) By children under 1 year of age	...					1290
	(ii) By children between the ages of 1 and 5 years						216
(d)	Total number of children who attended at the Centres for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :—						
	(i) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...			115
	(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years				...		6
(e)	Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were :						
	(i) Under 1 year of age	...	...	...			592
	(ii) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...			957
(f)	Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (d) (i)	...	...	...	...		42.8%

Ante-Natal Clinic.

(a)	Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Council	...	...	...	...	1
(b)	Number of Clinics provided and maintained by Voluntary Associations	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(c)	Total number of attendances by expectant mothers at all Clinics during the year	...	...	...	...	38
(d)	Total number of expectant mothers who attended at the Clinics during the year	...	...	...	...	18
(e)	Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the number in (d)	...	...	...	...	7.1%

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

There are no Maternity or Nursing Homes in the area under the control of the Council.

Maternal Mortality.

The County Medical Officer of Health informs me that Dr. Ponder will undertake any necessary investigations in connection with maternal deaths.

The following arrangements have been made by the Council :—

- (1) Difficult cases of labour are admitted to the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital.
 - (2) Cases of Puerperal Sepsis are admitted to the King Edward Hospital, Dartford.
 - (3) Consultant Gynecologist available if required.
 - (4) Ante-natal and other clinics provided by the Council.
- These are sufficient for the needs of the district.

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health, one whole time (M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.).

The other duties of the M.O.H. are as follows :—(1) Medical Superintendent Strood Isolation Hospital. (2) District Medical Officer for Northfleet District. (3) Public Vaccinator for Northfleet. (4) Medical Officer of Health, Hoo and Strood Rural Districts.

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector. One who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, as well as Meat and Foods Inspection.

The Sanitary Inspector also carries out the duties of :—

Inspection Officer under the Housing Acts.

Inspector of Cowsheds and Dairies.

Local Inspector under the Factory and Workshops Acts.

Health Visitor: Miss E. A. Cooper, C.M.B.

Maternity and Child Welfare Officer :—

James Crawford, M.B., Ch.B.

Children Act, 1908, Part 1—Section (a) of the Local Government Act, 1929.

The Health Visitor visits the children regularly and keeps the requisite register. At present there are five names on the register—two of these in one house. All the homes have been found very satisfactory.

Hospitals.

GRAVESEND AND NORTH KENT HOSPITAL, GRAVESEND, serves the District, and contains 109 beds and 9 cots.

MEDWAY INSTITUTION, CHATHAM. This Institution has the following number of beds:—Tuberculosis, 38; children (including 12 maternity cots), 24; maternity, 12; general, 409—total, 483.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION, STROOD. This Institution serves a large district. It has 126 beds, four of which are for Maternity cases and eight for Tuberculosis patients.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION, GRAVESEND. Has 72 beds, including two for maternity cases.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL, NEW ROAD, ROCHESTER. This is a Voluntary General Hospital, and serves a large area with a population of over 200,000.

KING EDWARD HOSPITAL, DARTFORD. No. of beds, 639; maternity, 6; tuberculosis, 20.

TUBERCULOSIS. The treatment of Tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council, and suitable cases from this district are admitted to their sanatoria as occasion demands. There is no sanatorium for Tuberculosis situated in the district.

Hospital and other forms of gratuitous Medical Relief are utilized to the utmost extent in the District.

Isolation Hospital.

The Strood Isolation Hospital occupies an area of six acres and consists of four blocks—three brick and one corrugated iron. These blocks are 40 feet from each other and from the boundary fence. There are six large and five small wards, and they contain 36 beds (allowing 144 sq. feet of floor per bed).

The administrative accommodation consists of a Matron, a Staff Nurse, and three Nurses. Domestic Staff is four women and one man.

The other offices are a hand laundry, which is sufficient for the wants of the Hospital; a disinfection station contains a Thresh Disinfector; and garage for Motor Ambulance.

Sewage Disposal.—Administration Block to Cesspool ; Wards, bucket system, burnt in incinerator. This latter system is antiquated, and the Council propose installing a more up-to-date method.

Heating is provided for by fires in each Ward. Lighting by electricity, and water is supplied by the Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Co.

The accommodation for Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric is sufficient for the wants of the District.

Details of Wards.

The available accommodation is as follows :—

		<i>Dimensions.</i>		<i>Floor Space.</i>
		<i>Length.</i>	<i>Breadth.</i>	<i>Approx.</i>
Diphtheria Block	Male	26' 4"	23' 6"	624 sq. ft.
	Female	26' 4"	23' 6"	624 „
	4 Small	12' 6"	11' 6"	576 „
Scarlet Fever Block	Male	26' 4"	23' 6"	624 „
	Female	26' 4"	23' 6"	624 „
	4 Small	12' 6"	11' 6"	576 „
Enteric Block	Male	29' 10"	19' 6"	580 „
	Female	29' 10"	19' 6"	580 „
	3 Small	13' 0"	9' 3"	363 „

This gives us a total floor space of 5,171 square feet or accommodation for 36 patients allowing each bed 144 square feet of floor space.

Following the adjustment of boundaries, which took place last March, the population of the combined districts served by the hospital will be less than 36,000. This gives us the correct number of beds as laid down by the Ministry of Health, *i.e.*, 1 per 1,000 of population.

Sanitary Districts from which patients are admitted :—

Name of District.	Population (1935).
Strood Rural 	18,095
Hoo Rural 	
Northfleet Urban (1935) 	17,660
Occasionally other districts temporarily.	35,755

The next Table shows the number of cases of each disease treated in the Hospital for the past eight years :—(Northfleet)

	1928		1929		1930		1931		1932		1933		1934		1935	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	9	...	15	...	9	...	6	...	2	...	7	...	15	...	10	...
Diphtheria	14	1	4	...	5	1	4	...	4	1	5	1	4	...	3	1
Typhoid Fever	...	...	13	6	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	23	1	32	6	21	2	10	Nil.	6	1	12	1	20	Nil.	13	1

Ambulance Facilities.

A Motor Ambulance is provided by the Strood Rural Council for the removal of infectious cases. Ambulance facilities are also provided by the St. John Ambulance for non-infectious and accident cases.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following is a list of the diseases which have to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health :—

(1) Small-pox. (2) Scarlet Fever. (3) Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup. (4) Enteric Fever (Typhoid and Paratyphoid). (5) Pneumonia. (6) Cholera. (7) Plague. (9) Puerperal Fever. (10) Cerebro-spinal Fever. (11) Acute Poliomyelitis. (12) Acute Polioencephalitis. (13) Encephalitis Lethargica. (14) Typhus Fever. (15) Relapsing Fever. (16) Continued Fever. (17) Dysentery. (18) Ophthalmia Neonatorum. (19) Puerperal Pyrexia. (20) Erysipelas. (21) Tuberculosis, primary notifications only. Respiratory, other forms. (22) Malaria (believed to be contracted in this country, believed to be contracted abroad, induced in institutions).

Infectious Disease.

Cases of infectious disease which cannot be properly isolated at home are removed to the Strood Isolation Hospital under an agreement which the Council has with that Institution. This arrangement continues to prove most satisfactory, both from the point of economy and efficiency. Prompt removal of patients is always carried out by means of a motor ambulance.

Table showing the numbers of cases and deaths from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever since, 1929 :—

	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Enteric Fever	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1929	42	Nil	13	Nil	18	7
1930	58	Nil	25	1	6	1
1931	33	Nil	25	1	Nil	Nil
1932	22	1	13	6	Nil	Nil
1933	32	Nil	11	4	Nil	Nil.
1934	71	Nil	13	Nil	Nil	Nil
1935	44	Nil	12	1	1	Nil
Total	302	1	112	13	25	8

Scarlet Fever.

Number of cases notified	...	44
Number of deaths	...	Nil.
Case fatality per cent.	...	Nil.
Number of cases removed to Hospital		10
Percentage of cases removed	...	22.8%

Diphtheria.

Number of cases notified	...	12
Number of deaths	...	1
Case fatality per cent.	...	8%
Number of cases removed to Hospital		3
Percentage of cases removed	...	25%

Enteric Fever.

Number of cases notified	...	1
Number of deaths	...	Nil.
Case fatality per cent.	...	Nil.
Number of cases removed to Hospital		Nil.
Percentage of cases removed	...	0.0

Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia.

One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified.

An arrangement has been made by means of which cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia, which cannot be properly isolated or attended to at home, are admitted to the King Edward Avenue Hospital, Dartford.

Small Pox.

No cases were notified during the year. A few contacts came into the district at intervals, these were kept under observation until the incubation period had expired.

A small hospital of six beds, capable of rapid expansion, is always kept ready in case of emergency.

A conference of various local authorities was convened by the Kent County Council during 1934 with a view of obtaining views as to the possibility of having central hospitals for the care of cases of Small Pox in the County. It was suggested that a fixed annual charge on the rateable value of each district should be made to maintain the hospitals. Most of the authorities were in favour of the scheme.

Tuberculosis.

For details of cases see special section of Report.

Tuberculosis Dispensary Service.

The services of the tuberculosis officers are available for the purpose of consultation in all cases receiving domiciliary treatment, and, at the request of the medical attendant, a certain number of patients are kept under the supervision of the tuberculosis officers

There are twenty-two dispensaries in the County. Particulars as to the tuberculosis officer in charge, the address of the dispensary and the hours of attendance are given below. Information is also given as to the additional area allocated to each tuberculosis officer for visitation purposes:—

District No. 1.—Population, approx., 226,588.

(Tuberculosis Officer in Charge, WILLIAM BEARE MARTIN, M.R.C.S.(Eng.),
L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.P.H.)

	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Day and Time of Opening.</i>	<i>Additional Area for Domiciliary Visitation.</i>
DARTFORD (Tel. No. 378)	41 Overy Street	Monday, 1.30-3.30 p.m. Thursday, 5.30-6.30 p.m.	Dartford R., Crayford, Swanscombe, Bexley,
Erith	65 Bexley Road	Monday, 5.0-6.0 p.m. Thursday, 2.0-4.0 p.m.	Northfleet and part of Strood R.
Gravesend	22 Cobham Street	Wednesday, 1.0-3.0 p.m.	

District No. 2.—Population, approx. 181,214.

(Tuberculosis Officer in Charge, CHARLES ROPER, B.A.(Camb.), M.D., B.C., D.P.H.)

ROCHESTER (Tel. No. Chatham 2182)	13 New Road	Friday, 9.30-10.30 a.m. Tuesday, 2.0-3.0 p.m. and 5.0-6.0 p.m.	Hoo R., part of Strood R. Chatham, N.E. fringe of Malling R., N.W. fringe
Gillingham	228 Nelson Road	Tuesday, 9.30-10.30 a.m. Friday, 2.0-3.0 p.m. and 4.0-5.0 p.m.	of Hollingbourn R., W. quarter of Milton R., Queenborough and
Sheerness	Granville Villa, Granville Road	Thursday, 11.0 a.m. 1.0 p.m.	Sheppey.

Venereal Diseases.

Amendments have been made in the times of holding the following clinics and they are now as follows :—

ROCHESTER—36, NEW ROAD.

DAYS AND TIMES OF CONSULTATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Tuesday	3	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	3	p.m.	— 6.30 p.m.
Thursday	11	a.m.	—	2	p.m.	11	a.m.	— 2 p.m.

DAYS AND HOURS FOR IRRIGATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Monday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 12 noon
	2	p.m.	—	3	p.m.	1	p.m.	— 4 p.m.
	and 5.30	p.m.	—	8	p.m.			
Tuesday	10	a.m.	—	10.30	a.m.	1	o.m.	— 6.30 p.m.
	3	p.m.	—	8	p.m.			
Wednesday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 12 noon
	2	p.m.	—	3	p.m.	1	p.m.	— 4 p.m.
	and 5.30	p.m.	—	8	p.m.			
Thursday	11	a.m.	—	2	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 2 p.m.
	5.30	p.m.	—	8	p.m.	2	p.m.	— 4 p.m.
Friday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 12 noon
	2	p.m.	—	3	p.m.	1	p.m.	— 4 p.m.
	and 7.30	p.m.	—	8.30	p.m.			
Saturday	10	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 12 noon

GRAVESEND—22, COBHAM STREET.

DAYS AND TIMES OF CONSULTATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Tuesday	11	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	1	p.m.	— 2.13 p.m.
Thursday	5	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	3	p.m.	— 4.30 p.m.

DAYS AND HOURS FOR IRRIGATION.

	<i>Men</i>				<i>Women</i>			
Monday	6	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 12 noon
					and 1	p.m.	— 5 p.m.	
Tuesday	11	a.m.	—	1	p.m.	1	p.m.	— 2.15 p.m.
	and 6	p.m.	—	7	p.m.			
Wednesday	6	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 11.30 a.m.
Thursday	5	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	3	p.m.	— 4.30 p.m.
Friday	6	p.m.	—	7	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 12 noon
					and 1	p.m.	— 5 p.m.	
Saturday	1	p.m.	—	2	p.m.	9	a.m.	— 11.30 a.m.

Treatment of Crippled Children.

The county scheme for the treatment of crippled children includes the provision of eighty beds at the Alexandra Hospital at Swanley, not less than forty-eight being for tuberculous cripples and not more than thirty-two for patients suffering from crippling defects due to other causes. For those children who are of school age education is provided. The whole of these beds are now occupied by Kent patients.

In addition, the following three hospitals have provided a limited number of beds for patients who do not require prolonged institutional treatment, viz. :—

- (a) West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.
- (b) Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.
- (c) King Edward Avenue Hospital, Dartford.

These three hospitals have each established a properly equipped orthopaedic out-patient department, and a complete list of out-patient clinics is set out below :—

Address.	Day and time of Opening.	Orthopaedic Surgeon Attends.	Name of Surgeon.
Ashford Child Welfare Centre, Station Road, Ashford.	Each Wednesday at 11.30 a.m.	First and third Wednesday in each month.	A. L. Moreton, Esq., M.S., M.B., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Wesleyan Methodist Church Rooms, York Street, Broadstairs.	Each Tuesday at 11.30 a.m.	First and third Tuesdays in each month.	Ditto
Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.	Each Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to about 1 p.m.	Each Wednesday.	A. B. Beresford-Jones, Esq., M.S., M.B.
King Edward Avenue Hospital, Dartford.	First Tuesday in each month at 4.0 p.m., and third Tuesday in each month at 2.30 p.m.	At each opening.	H. E. Batten, Esq., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
*Tuberculosis Dispensary, 41, Overy Street, Dartford.	Ditto. each month at 3.0 p.m.	Ditto.	Ditto.
West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.	Each Friday. New patients should arrive at the Union Street entrance of the hospital before 10 a.m., if possible. No patient is admitted after 11.15 a.m.	Ditto.	A. H. Todd, Esq., M.S., M.B., B.Sc., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Dorset House, St. John's Road, Sevenoaks.	Each Monday at 10.30 a.m.	Second and fourth Mondays in each month.	A. L. Moreton, Esq.
Sheerness Town Welfare Centre Marine Parade, Sheerness.	Each Monday at 11.30 a.m.	First and third Mondays in each month.	Ditto.

*For tuberculous cripples only.

Voluntary Committees of ladies interested in the work, assist at the Ashford, Broadstairs, Sevenoaks and Sheerness Clinics.

Necessary surgical appliances are provided for patients on the recommendation of the orthopaedic surgeons, and X-ray films are taken at various approved institutions. Cases arising for electrical treatment, massage, exercise, etc., receive daily treatment, where necessary, at certain of the clinics, at St. Mary's Convalescent Home, Birchington, or at the homes of the children.

The parents of patients are asked to contribute towards the cost of institutional treatment and surgical appliances, in accordance with their means.

Travelling expenses of patients are met by the Kent County Council in necessitous cases.

The above arrangements apply to: —

- (i) All crippled children under five years of age living in the area in which the County Council is responsible for maternity and child welfare.
- (ii) All children attending schools of the Kent Education Committee.
- (iii) All tuberculous cripples up to sixteen years of age.
- (iv) Children (under five years of age or attending elementary schools) in the following autonomous districts, the Councils of which have arranged to participate in the County scheme :—

Borough of Faversham, Gravesend, Margate, Sandwich.
Urban Districts of Ashford, Bexley, Crayford, Dartford,
Milton and Sittingbourne, Northfleet, Sevenoaks,
Sheerness.

Rural Districts of Dartford, Milton, Tonbridge.

Cancer.

The number of deaths caused by Cancer during the year under review was 30. Most of the cases occurred amongst elderly folk and no undue prevalence in any particular organ was noted. It was not deemed necessary to advise the Council to take any action to improve the facilities for health instruction, diagnosis or treatment, such as those outlined in Circular 1136 of the 31st July, 1930.

British Empire Cancer Campaign.

The British Empire Cancer Campaign has formed a Committee to stimulate the education of the public on matters concerning cancer—particularly the early symptoms of the accessible cancers such as the breast, uterus, tongue, etc.

It is considered that the best way of doing this is to form panels of Local Practitioners who will give lectures in their respective districts, for which they will receive a small honorarium. The objects of such lectures will be :—

- 1. To diminish the present very widespread fear of the disease and
- 2. To convince people of the importance of early diagnosis and to persuade them to seek medical advice at an early stage of the disease.

“ We are at present endeavouring to form the various panels of Local Practitioners and I am now writing to ask if you would consent to be the honorary Secretary of the Panel of Lectures in your area. Naturally you will ask whether this means much extra work. The scheme envisaged is that lectures will be arranged by various organisations, such as the Women's Institutes, etc., and that they will apply from time to time to Headquarters for lectures. If a request were received from a district within your area, I should write to you to ask if you would get in touch with a medical man.

who is on your panel and who lives near the meeting place to give the lecture on the date specified. Possibly we might ask you to arrange for posters which would be sent down from Headquarters, to be displayed appropriately. Headquarters is most anxious to do all the work but there are just one or two things, as mentioned above, which can only be done by the 'man on the spot.'

"I sincerely hope that you will agree to act as the Honorary Secretary for your area, in which case in due course I would send you the names of the medical men who have consented to serve on the panel."

Pathological and Bacteriological Specimens.

Pathological and Bacteriological specimens are examined free of charge at the County Laboratory at Maidstone. Full use has been made of these facilities, which are most satisfactory.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied free to Medical Practitioners in the District.

DICK AND SCKICK TEST.

No use has been made of either of these Tests during the year.

Verminous Persons.

Facilities for the cleansing and disinfection of persons are available at the Union at Strood.

Disinfection.

All bedding and articles of clothing from houses where cases of infectious disease have occurred are promptly removed to a steam disinfecter belonging to the Council. Disinfectants are freely supplied and the room occupied by the patient is disinfected by Formalin Vapour.

Vaccination.

The percentage of babies vaccinated remains high—it is more than 60% of the babies born—and no babies have been vaccinated by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Preventative Regulations,) 1917, during the year.

I am indebted to Mr. Gough, the Vaccination Officer for the sub-division of Northfleet, for the following report:—

NORTHFLEET DISTRICT.

VACCINATION—YEARS 1923-1935.

I beg to submit my Annual Vaccination Report for the Northfleet District.

It will be of interest to note that over a period of thirteen years, an average of 63% of babies born were vaccinated, approximately 50% of these by yourself as Public Vaccinator for the District.

There has been no apparent increase in the case of parents who object to the vaccination of babies, and that Statutory Declarations made in this respect, remain at 30% of the total births registered.

The high percentage of babies vaccinated in your district is therefore maintained.

Northfleet District.

Vaccination Return for the Years 1923-1935.

Year.	Births Registered.	Vaccinated by Public Vaccinator.	Vaccinated by Medical Practitioners.	Statutory Declarations made against Vaccination.	Insusceptibility to Vaccination.	Removed from District	Died before Vaccination.	Total.
1923	427	189	84	133	2	10	9	427
1924	447	228	69	124	1	9	16	447
1925	455	219	64	138	1	10	23	455
1926	418	195	73	127	—	6	17	418
1927	417	190	75	128	2	3	19	417
1928	418	191	55	150	1	6	15	418
1929	408	196	64	129	1	4	14	403
1930	353	170	49	110	2	8	14	353
1931	369	174	67	115	1	2	10	369
1932	346	161	43	114	3	5	20	346
1933	409	219	65	106	1	9	9	409
1934	396	194	48	127	—	10	17	396
1935	332	145	38	124	—	18	7	332
Totals	5195	2471	794	1625	15	100	190	5195

Percentage Vaccinated and Exempted of Births Registered

Year.	Total Percentage Vaccinated.	Percentage Vaccinated by Public Vaccinator.	Percentage Vaccinated by Medical Practitioners.	Percentage of Statutory Declarations.
1923	64%	45%	19%	31%
1924	67%	51%	16%	28%
1925	62%	48%	14%	30%
1926	64%	47%	17%	30%
1927	64%	46%	18%	30%
1928	59%	46%	13%	36%
1929	64%	48%	16%	31%
1930	62%	48%	14%	31%
1931	65%	47%	18%	31%
1932	59%	47%	12%	33%
1933	70%	54%	16%	26%
1934	62%	50%	12%	32%
1935	55%	44%	11%	37%
Average	63%	48%	15%	31%

D. A. GOUGH,

April, 1936.

Vaccination Officer, Northfleet, Kent.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1935.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths *
Small-pox	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	44	10	Nil.
Diphtheria	12	3	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	Nil.	Nil.
Puerperal Fever	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
„ Pyrexia	1	Nil.	Nil.
Pneumonia	10	Nil.	10
Erysipelas	4	Nil.	Nil.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	Nil.	Nil.
Totals	73	13	12

*R.G. Returns.

t. Observation case of Paratyphoid.

	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 3 years.	3 and under 4 years.	4 and under 5 years.	5 and under 7 years.	7 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 35 years.	35 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and over.	Totals.
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	1	3	4	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	12
Scarlet Fever...	...	1	1	2	5	5	7	15	2	5	1	...	...	44
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	4
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	1	3	1	10
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary M.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	4	3	2	...	11
Tuberculosis F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	2	...	...	5
Non-Pulm'y M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Totals	1	1	1	3	8	13	10	16	4	18	10	7	2	94

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.†			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	I	I	...	I	...	I	...	I
10—15	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...
15—25	I	I	I	I	...	...	I	2
25—35	4	I	...	...	4	I	...	...
35—45	3	2	...	I	I	...	I	...
45—55	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65	I	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
65 up	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	II	5	I	4	6	2	2	3

†R.G. Returns.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925,
Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken during 1934.

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Register of Notifications
of cases of Tuberculosis, for the Year ended the 31st day of
December, 1935.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non- Pulmonary Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the commencement of the Year...	53	37	90	25	11	36	126
(b) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the Year	57	36	93	22	15	37	130

Non-Notifiable Acute Infections.

The district has been comparatively free from Influenza, and the number of deaths due to this disease negligible. Rabies was absent, while the number of cases of anthrax brought to my notice was very small.

Foot and Mouth Disease.

No outbreaks were reported during the year.

Causes of Death in Northfleet Urban District, 1935.

CAUSES OF DEATH	M.	F.			
All Causes	127	90			
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...			
2 Measles	...	...			
3 Scarlet fever	...	...			
4 Whooping cough	...	...			
5 Diphtheria	2	...			
6 Influenza	1	2			
7 Encephalitis lethargica	...	...			
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...			
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	6	2			
10 Other Tuberculous	2	3			
11 Syphilis	...	...			
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	1	...			
13 Cancer	17	13			
14 Diabetes	3	1			
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	5	7			
16 Heart disease	37	32			
17 Aneurysm	1	...			
18 Other circulatory diseases	2	2			
19 Bronchitis	7	3			
20 Pneumonia	8	2			
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	1			
22 Peptic ulcer	2	1			
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...			
24 Appendicitis	1	2			
25 Cirrhosis of liver	...	...			
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...			
27 Other digestive	2	4			
28 Nephritis	4	3			
29 Puerperal sepsis	...	...			
30 Other puerperal causes	...	...			
31 Congenital causes, etc.	7	...			
32 Senility	4	1			
33 Suicide	1	...			
34 Other violence... ..	1	4			
35 Other defined diseases... ..	8	7			
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...			
			CAUSES OF DEATH	M.	F.
			Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)		
			Small-pox	...	...
			Poliomyelitis	...	...
			Polioencephalitis	...	...
			Deaths of Infants under 1 year { Total ...	19	1
			{ Legitimate	8	1
			{ Illegitimate	1	...
			Live Births { Total ...	147	144
			{ Legitimate	143	140
			{ Illegitimate	4	4
			Stillbirths { Total ...	7	7
			{ Legitimate	7	6
			{ Illegitimate	...	1
			Population	17,600	

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

An ample and continuous supply is given by the Gravesend Water Company, from a well sunk in the deep chalk which is situated in the Northfleet district. I am informed that there is an ample supply and that there is no likelihood of any shortage. There is also a good reserve in the well at Windmill Hill.

The quarterly analysis shows that the water is pure and free from pollution.

Reservoirs.

Gravesend & Milton ... One 800,000 galls. at Gravesend.
 One 220,000 galls. at Northfleet.
 One 100,000 galls. at Northfleet.

Public Analyst's Report on Water Samples.—(Copy).

Description of Sample.	Gravesend & Milton.		
Date of Collection	...	...	19-3-34
Total Solid Residue	...	...	36.0
Chlorine	...	...	1.7
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	0.2
Oxygen absorbed $\frac{1}{4}$ -hr. at 80° F.	...	...	0.003
Oxygen absorbed 4-hrs. at 80° F.	...	...	0.005
Nitrites	...	...	Absent

Remarks to above.—This Water is of excellent organic quality and therefore suitable for use as drinking water.

Signed. F. W. F. ARNAUD, F.C.I.,
 Public Analyst for the County of Kent.

Particulars as to resources of and demand on Water Undertakings in Area :—

1. (a) No. of dwelling houses in district as at 31st Dec., 1935 4,489
 (b) No. of other premises in district as at 31st Dec., 1935 489
 (c) Total 4,978
2. No. without supply into the building or to Standpipes :—
 (a) Dwelling Houses 6
 (b) Other Premises Nil
 (c) Total 6

Croydon Corporation.

As reported last year, a Bill was introduced into the House of Commons to authorise the Borough of Croydon to construct Waterworks in the Parish of Cuxton and a Petition Against was

put in by the Strood R.D.C., who alleged that they and the said district and the inhabitants thereof would be injuriously affected, and they objected for the reasons, amongst others :—

1. The water supply of the said parish and the adjoining districts (including Northfleet) which are rapidly developing would be seriously affected.
2. The Bill would have the effect of limiting the powers which the rural district council or the inhabitants of their district possess at present in respect of the abstraction and use of water within the district.

I am pleased to be able to report that this Bill was defeated.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Scavenging.

House refuse is removed at least once in seven days by men employed by the Council under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, to a suitable site owned by the Council where it is covered each day with sufficient earth. Nearly all the work is done by two motor lorries, but in some parts a horsed cart is necessary.

Sewerage.

The main drainage scheme is almost completed and nearly all the houses are now connected to the main sewers. The only part of the district which is not yet sewered is the low level area and that is now under construction. In a short time the whole of the district will be sewered with the exception of a few houses which are situated in the strictly rural portion, and Undershore.

When discharge into the sea is not practicable, as in Northfleet, local authorities have to make some arrangement for the purification of their sewage. Whatever method is adopted, the final effluent may have to be discharged into a stream of some sort, and certain standards have been fixed which determine the degree of purification necessary. The Sewage Commissioners at the 8th Royal Commission suggested that :—

1. No sewage effluent should contain more than 3 parts of suspended solids per 100,000.
2. No sewage effluent should absorb more than 2 parts by weight of dissolved oxygen per 100,000 in 5 days at 18° C., and the stream after receiving the effluent should not absorb more than 0.4 part in the same time.

Certain important exceptions were made, depending on the size of the stream receiving the effluent.

1. When the stream is from 150 to 300 times the volume of the effluent, the standard of dissolved oxygen may be neglected, but the suspended solids should not exceed 6 parts per 100,000.

2. When the stream is from 300 to 500 times the volume of the effluent, solids in suspension should not exceed 15 parts. Ordinary sedimentation tanks would ensure this.
3. When the stream is more than 500 times the volume of the effluent all tests may be neglected, and the only treatment necessary is screening to remove the larger solid matters.

The aim of the two tests recommended by the Commission is to gauge the putrescibility and de-aerating power of the effluent and the possibility of a stream becoming silted up by an excessive amount of solids discharged into it. "Bad effluents in time cause a nuisance in the streams receiving them, the growth of sewage fungus is encouraged, and fish life endangered. As many of our towns draw their water supply from rivers, all precautions should be taken to prevent pollution whenever possible. The pollution of streams by trade wastes is receiving more and more attention. In a report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 1926, it is suggested that there should be a central authority to hold the scales between the various interests concerned; and to be charged with the preservation of one of our greatest national assets—pure water."

"On the 4th instant I received from you a sample of Effluent taken at the Northfleet Sewage Works, and on examination I have obtained the following results which are expressed in parts per 100,000 :—

Total dissolved solids	...	...	...	...	175.0
Total suspended solids	...	...	...	...	3.4
Organic suspended solids	...	...	...	...	2.2
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	45.5
Free ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.42
Albuminoid ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.14
Oxygen absorbed (acid permanganate) $\frac{1}{4}$ hour	...	...	...	...	0.587
" " " " 4 hours	...	...	...	...	1.06
Nitrogen as nitrates	...	...	...	...	7.0
" " nitrites	...	...	...	...	Trace
Dissolved oxygen requirement in 5 days	...	...	...	...	1.47

The effluent had no sewage odour and it was of very satisfactory quality indeed."

Main Drainage.

THE DISTRICT SURVEYOR (MR. J. A. MITCHELL) REPORTS :—

"Since the last report descriptive of the works and the progress made up to that time, the whole of the work has been completed with the exception of the connections to a few houses in Portland Road as to the stability of which a dispute arose with the owners. A new agreement has been entered into with the owners and the work of connecting Portland Road is now in hand. The three lifting stations are functioning quite satisfactorily and the purification at the Disposal Works also continues to be satisfactory. The Council have been successful in disposing of all the sludge through the tenant of the farm who has other land on which he has been able to dispose of some of this material. This has resulted

in no accumulation of sludge at the Works. The agreement with the Swanscombe Council is completed and a portion of their Taunton Road area has already been connected to the Northfleet system.

List of Bye-Laws in force in District.

Advertisement Regulations Act, 1925.

Cemetery.

Hackney Carriages.

New Streets and Buildings.

Nuisances.

Parks and Pleasure Grounds.

Slaughterhouses.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures.

There are no local Acts.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

All milkshops, dairies, cowsheds, bakehouses, workshops and slaughterhouses are visited at least twice a year by the Sanitary Inspector and myself. The Inspector also visits the slaughterhouses very frequently, if possible when slaughtering is taking place. All were found clean and in good condition.

Most of the milk is imported from other districts. There are only two dairy farms in the District. Both are well kept and have a good water supply.

During the year mixed samples of milk were collected from the dairy farms for bacteriological examination.

Provision of Milk for School Children.

In October, 1934, the County Medical Officer of Health wrote to state that the Board of Education had issued a Circular (1437, dated 5th September, 1934) with attached Scheme for the supply of milk to schools in England and Wales at reduced rates.

Under this Scheme the price of milk consumed in schools by young children, is reduced to one shilling per gallon, thus enabling it to be supplied to children at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for one-third of a pint, instead of 1d. as hitherto. The milk will, whenever possible, be supplied in bottles containing one-third of a pint.

The Board urge that any areas where a supply of efficiently pasteurised milk is available, such milk should in all cases be provided. In other areas, all possible precautions should be taken to ensure, as far as possible, the safety of the supply.

The Scheme came into operation on 1st October, 1934.

The Milk Marketing Board will accept no milk for rebate unless the source and quality of the supply have been approved by the Medical Officer of Health of the Local Sanitary District concerned.

“ As time allows, investigation as to the purity of the milk and its freedom from disease taint will be made, but, in the meantime, I should be glad if you would kindly co-operate with me by letting me have certificates in the form attached in respect of school supplies in your area, of which I append particulars.

In view of the fact that often a dairyman obtains his milk from more than one herd, may I ask you to report on each herd concerned if it is in your district. If not, on hearing from you I will endeavour to get the necessary information from the Medical Officer of Health in whose district it is.

I hope it will be possible for you to let me have these certificates at a very early date and in any event not later than 22nd October. I am issuing a tentative certificate of approval in all cases covering the period until I have the information you will supply.

I hope, at a very early date, to commence examinations for tubercle and bacterial counts, and I trust I may then also rely on your further co-operation in collecting and forwarding the necessary samples of milk for examination. These samples will, if possible, be the bottled ones as supplied to the school.”

The following is some of the information asked for :—

(1) If the milk is not pasteurised and there is such a supply to be obtained within reasonable distance, kindly state the name and address of the dairyman concerned ; (2) Comments on the health of cows ; condition of premises and any improvements ; if milking is carried out satisfactorily ; if bottling, cooling and handling of milk is properly done.

Many enquiries were made as a result and every effort was made to bring the milk up to a proper standard of cleanliness.

The scheme continues to operate satisfactorily. During 1935, some 40 samples were submitted for examination.

Slaughter Houses.

There are 8 Slaughter Houses in the District, which have been regularly inspected. Your Sanitary Officer visits them as much as possible at times of killing. The condition of these places is, on the whole, satisfactory.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTER HOUSES IN USE IN THE DISTRICT.

		In 1920	In January, 1926	In December, 1935
Registered	...	4	4	4
Licensed	...	3	3	4
Total	...	7	7	8

Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928.

This Act is administered by the County Police and I am indebted to Superintendent Austin, Dartford, for the following particulars.

<i>Description of Sample.</i>	<i>No. of Samples Taken.</i>	<i>Result of Analysis.</i>	<i>Prosecutions.</i>
New Milk ...	40	Genuine	Nil
Butter ...	8	"	"
Lard ...	2	"	"
Margarine ...	4	"	"
Sugar ...	2	"	"
Tinned Peas ...	1	"	"
Cream ...	1	"	"
Whiskey ...	1	"	"
Gin ...	1	"	"
Cod Liver Oil ...	1	"	"
Tincture of Quinine	1	"	"
Flour ...	1	"	"
Mustard ...	1	"	"

Bakehouses.

There are 7 in the District. They have all been systematically inspected and usually found fairly well kept.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are none in the District.

Swimming Bath.

Ministry of Health,
Whitehall, S.W. 1.
1st November, 1935.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

"I am directed by the Minister of Health to emphasize the opportunity afforded by the coming winter months to take any necessary steps for ensuring a proper standard of cleanliness and purity of water in swimming baths and pools, and to draw attention again to the report on "The Purification of the Water of Swimming Baths" prepared by the Ministry of Health and published in 1929 by H.M. Stationery Office, from whom copies may be obtained directly or through any bookseller (price 1s. net).

The increased use of swimming baths and pools has made it all the more necessary that local authorities should see that the water is kept at a proper standard of cleanliness and purity. Where the sanction of the Minister is required to loans for baths or pools, care is always taken that any necessary plant for this purpose is provided. Plant will not do its work, however, unless it is properly maintained and used. Information which has reached the Ministry shows that great improvement has been effected, but more is needed and local authorities and private owners of baths or pools should thoroughly inspect the present arrangements.

The report of 1929 states that the requisite degree of purity can best be maintained by efficient continuous filtration combined with continuous and accurately controlled chlorination (other equally effective means of sterilization can be used, if desired, in place of chlorination). The need for properly qualified supervision is emphasized, and the keeping of a detailed daily record of the performance of the filtration and sterilization plant is recommended. Standards are laid down for clarity, alkalinity of filtrate, aeration and chlorine content (pp.46 and 51).

The recommendations made in the report apply to all swimming baths and pools open to the public, whether owned by the Local Authority or by private persons, and their application is strongly recommended."

Mr. B. L. Lelliott, Chief Welfare Officer of the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ltd., and British Portland Cement Manufacturers, Ltd., reports as follows :—

"Cement Works Swimming Bath. This Bath was re-conditioned for the use of employees and residents of the district by the above Companies in 1927, and is situate in Hive Lane, off High Street, Northfleet. It is a tepid fresh water bath, 80ft. long, and 30ft. wide, graduating in depth from 3ft. 6ins. to 7ft. Diving boards 3ft. to 12ft., spring and fixed, are provided.

Until 1933 the water was supplied from deep wells situated near the Bath, but owing to the length of time involved in cleaning out and refilling once per week, a purification plant was installed in 1934. This plant was put in by Bell Bros., and purifies and aerates the whole of the water once every six hours.

Filtration and purification is carried out by a pressure filter and the addition of sulphate of alimina, alkali and chlorine. An 8ft. diameter pressure filter is provided which is capable of withstanding a test of 120 pounds per square inch, the filtering medium being silver sand. Sulphate of alumina solution and alkali are added by means of pumps before filtration, the chlorine is then added in the form of solution after filtration. Aeration takes place by means of a cascade.

The sides and bottom of the Bath are cleaned daily whilst the surround is cleaned with a solution of Voxsan. Tests of the water for the purpose of regulating the dosage of chemicals are taken periodically daily.

The apparatus installed has proved exceedingly efficient, and no complaints have been received regarding the condition of the water since its installation."

Dust Emission.

Major C. C. H. Brazier, Manager of Bevan's Works, has sent me the following report on the question of dust emission :—

"With reference to our conversation about dust emission, I have given the matter a good deal of thought and as the Authorities appear to be "gaining contact," to use a tactical expression, it occurred to me that I might with advantage, put you *au fait* with one or two facts.

“ The dust emission from cement works varies as between works and works, but for many years past we have carried out a continuously progressive policy to reduce dust emission to its lowest practical proportion—I may say before there was any question of pressure from Home Office or other authority. Many thousands of pounds have been spent upon countless large scale experiments, and improvements, some of which have been successful, others not so encouraging, but suffice it to say that as a result of these years of patient work, we have reduced our dust emission to a very small quantity. At these works for instance our emission is not only unnoticable but it is quite difficult to collect and measure. To put the matter in a practical light, one has only to take notice of the houses and roofs in this district. Take Lawn Road for instance, which has been standing for nearly 100 years in the immediate vicinity of these works. You will find the slates upon the roofs present their normal appearance and colour, and if you will study the whole neighbourhood around the immediate environs, you will find that there is very little evidence of dust emission. How is this accomplished ?

“ There are several methods of attacking the problem, by no means new is the method you mentioned, *i.e.*, electrical precipitation. I may say that our Company have investigated this process from every angle for many years past, and actually possess plants at some of their works. I was sent to the Continent some few years ago to investigate certain plants of this nature. One very great objection to electrical precipitation is that it necessitates slowing down the exit gases to a very low velocity, I believe in the region of 6ft. per second, and in the case of cement factories, the construction of enormous precipitation chambers of gargantuan dimensions. It is safe to say that even this apparatus has by no means reached finality. With the electrical precipitation, the arrest of the last and final proportion is not wholly possible, in other words, the apparatus in question does not remove *all* the dust.

“ One obvious disadvantage is that it is a very expensive plant to instal ; it must be remembered that it is not gold dust or any valuable concentrate which is being precipitated, but merely cement dust of comparatively cheap basic material. You may be aware that many metallurgical processes use electrical precipitation because of the value of the dust they collect.

“ Yet another method of tackling the question is to completely wash all the exit gases, which takes the dust down in the form of sludge. Our Managing Director was the first person to apply this system to the Cement Industry, and one large such plant is in operation at our Kent Works. This system does of course, remove all the dust, but like other systems it has its drawbacks. I am sure as a Chemist you will appreciate the difficulty of the sulphur in the exit gases, which becomes absorbed by the washing water introduced. Furthermore, the continuous cooling effect upon all the gases is liable to produce atmosphere on windless days charged with aqueous vapour, which under certain circumstances can be far from pleasant.

“ Yet another method of dealing with the problem is to arrest the dust in the back end of the kilns. A moment's reflection will, I am sure, convince that this is the proper place to stop the dust, and with this end in view, it is no exaggeration to say that countless systems have been installed and experimented with. At these works alone we have developed, over a period of years, a most elaborate system of wet chain curtains and deflector plates to suit the particular characteristics of this raw material, and I may say with great success. I am sure that our dust emission does not create any nuisance or offence.

“ This latter point is, I maintain, the crucial consideration which should guide us all, and whilst “ ideal ” (0.00%) is the only finality with which the scientist can be satisfied, one must not lose one's sense of proportion when dealing with practical problems which affect not only the amenities of the District, but also the Industry which is the staple livelihood of so many of the people who live in the District. It must not be forgotten that domestic fires, factory chimneys of all kinds (of which there are many in the vicinity) pour out the products of combustion (very poor combustion at that, unlike the Rotary Kiln, which perhaps is an example of the most perfect combustion of fuel outside the laboratory). Around some of the factory chimneys near here for instance, one finds unconsumed coal in the form of gritty coke about the streets.

“ I must apologise for writing you at such great length but in the interests of fair play I sincerely hope that no campaign of misrepresentation will take place, for as noted earlier, the Managing Director has been unstinting in his approval of expenditure in this matter of dust emission, and those of us responsible for the management of the Company's operation, have left no stone unturned until we have reduced the dust emission to the lowest practical proportions, and I say without fear of contradiction, in the case of this works, to a completely satisfactory condition of affairs. All we ask is to be judged by the *facts as they exist*, by people with a sense of proportion and good will.

“ Speaking for myself, I shall be only too glad to place all the facts I have at your disposal at any time you may wish, and to extend to you an open invitation to visit the plant whenever you may feel disposed.”

HOUSING.

Housing Act, 1936.⁵

This Act received the Royal Assent on the 2nd August.

It is described as an Act to make further and better provision for the abatement and prevention of overcrowding, the re-development of Rural and Urban areas in connection with the provision of housing accommodation therein, and the reconditioning of buildings, to make provision for the establishment of a housing advisory committee and of commissions for the management of local

authorities' houses, to amend the enactments relating to the housing operations of public utility societies and other bodies, to provide for the consolidation of housing accounts, to amend the enactments relating to housing ; and for purposes connected with the matters aforesaid.

It contains 100 sections and 7 schedules.

Part I (sections 1 to 23) deals with the abatement of overcrowding and re-development areas.

Sec. 1 enacts that it shall be your duty before such dates as may be fixed by the Minister of Health to cause an inspection of your district to be made with a view to ascertaining what dwelling houses are overcrowded and to prepare and submit to the Minister a report showing the result of the inspection and the number of new houses required to abate overcrowding and unless you are satisfied that the required number of new houses will be otherwise provided, to prepare and submit to the Minister proposals for the provision thereof.

Under Sec. 2 a house shall be deemed to be overcrowded for the purposes of the Act :—

(a) When the number of persons sleeping in the house is such that any two of those persons being 10 years old or over of opposite sexes must sleep in the same room (with a saving for persons living together as man and wife) ;
or (b) when the number of persons sleeping in the house is in excess of the permitted number of persons and that expression means :—

either (i) where a house consists of :—

	Persons.
1 room	2
2 rooms.....	3
3 rooms.....	5
4 rooms.....	7½
5 rooms or more	10 with an additional 2 persons for each room in excess of 5.

or (ii) the number of persons obtained by reckoning the number of persons in relation to room areas, as follows :—...

	Persons.
(a) 110 sq. ft. or more	2
(b) 90 to 110 sq. ft.	1½
(c) 70 to 90 sq. ft.	1
(d) 50 to 70 sq. ft.	½

whichever is less.,

In reckoning the number of persons sleeping in a house, no account is to be taken of a child under 1 year and a child between 1 and 10 is to be reckoned as half of a unit.

See Sanitary Inspector's report for full details.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	310
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919, 1923, or 1924 :—						
(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(ii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	538
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose				1076
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	250
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose				500
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	250

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	457
---	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—				
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs				32
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	30
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners				Nil.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—				
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners				Nil.
(c) Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—				
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil.

Number of houses demolished voluntarily	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	2
(d) Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

Mr. Dyson Reports :—

Overcrowding.

The housing shortage is not so acute as it was 12 months ago.

On this day, March 12th, 1936, there are quite 50 houses and parts of houses to let in various parts of the district. They are mostly decontrolled and owners are holding out to get as high a rent as possible.

About 12 that are empty are too large for the ordinary working man. Ordinary workman's cottages that are controlled are occasionally becoming empty and these are quickly re-let.

Several small cottages of a not modern type are empty.

The position on December 31st, 1935. The Council own 322 houses, and a further 28 houses of the three bedroomed type are being erected on land belonging to the Council.

As these 28 houses become let the houses thereby vacated will be quickly absorbed by needful cases in the vicinity.

As these 28 houses are not being subsidised in any way they will require to be let at an economic rental.

NOTES AS TO HOW THE NUMBER OF NOTICES ARE ARRIVED AT UNDER HOUSING.

The 538 is largely made up of the ordinary routine work of serving notices for stripping, and cleansing, defective roofs, walls, floors, gutters, dust-bins notices, and notices through the letter book.

The number of notices thus served	288
House to house inspections under Housing Regulations	250
	538

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspec- tions. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	17	...	...
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	17	2	...
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	...	...	...
Total	34	2	Nil.

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	No. of Defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Pro- secutions were inst'd (5)
	Found (2)	Re- medied (3)	Referred to. H.M. Inspector (4)	
<i>Nuisances under Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness ...	2	2	...	...
Want of ventilation ...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ...	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	1	1	...	...
Sanitary { insufficient	...	...	...	...
Accom- { unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...
modation { not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse (s. 101) ...	...	...	...	...
Other offences	...	...	...	...
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).	...	...	...	...
Total	3	3	...	...

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

M. F. McDONNELL,
Medical Officer of Health.

**REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF MATERNITY AND
CHILD WELFARE CLINIC, AND ANTE-NATAL CLINIC,
FOR THE YEAR, 1935.**

**To the Chairman and Members of the Northfleet Urban
District Council.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. LANE AND GENTLEMEN,

During the year 1935 your Child Welfare and Maternity Clinic has continued to maintain its useful purpose. The attendances during the period in review have been very satisfactory, and indeed constitute a record. The average attendance per clinic has now risen to 42, and since the inception of this department 2,161 mothers have availed themselves of the services provided.

The Clinic is held twice weekly, but owing to the increase in attendances I would suggest that the service of one hour should be extended to one and a half hours each clinic day.

In addition to these bi-weekly clinics, Nurse Cooper is always present at the Centre on Tuesday afternoons to assist mothers, so that there is no need for any mother to suffer hardship in procuring her child's food, etc.

Free milk continues to be dispensed in necessitous cases, and I am sure this in no small way contributes to the very excellent health of the infant population of Northfleet.

I am deeply grateful to the Ladies' Committee who help me one day each week with the clerical work associated with the distribution of free milk.

I look forward confidently to an even greater number of mothers availing themselves of the advantages of this Clinic in 1936.

The Ante-Natal Clinic continues to be held one day each week for one hour.

Unlike the Child Welfare Clinic attendances at this Clinic are poor. During the period in review only 18 expectant mothers came for advice, the total attendances being 38. It is a great pity the younger expectant mothers of the district will not seek the services and advice provided, and consequently often run a very grave risk to themselves and their infants. One can only hope that in the march of time interest will take the place of apathy.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Lane and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
JAMES CRAWFORD, M.B.

HEALTH VISITOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR, 1935.

To the Chairman and Members of the Northfleet Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS,

This is my Annual Report for 1935 :—

There were 227 births ; 108 males and 119 females.

There were 53 notifications by doctors ; 140 notifications by midwives ; 3 not signed ; 31 not notified.

There were 176 breast fed ; 27 hand fed ; 10 mixed ; 14 to account for.

There were 11 stillbirths ; 3 illegitimate births ; 6 deaths.

There were :—1st visits to children under 1 year, 308 ; total visits under 1 year, 951.

Visits to children between 1—5 years, 1,175 ; total visits, 2,126.

Thanking you for all your kindness in the past,

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

E. A. COOPER,

Health Visitor.

Council Offices, Northfleet.

17th March, 1936.

REPORT OF CHILDREN TAKEN FOR REWARD FOR THE YEAR, 1935.

There are 4 children on my books, 3 of them go to school.

32 visits were paid.

E. A. COOPER,

Infant Protection Visitor.

17th March, 1936.

DEFECTS TREATED OR ATTENDED AT NORTHFLEET SCHOOL CLINIC FOR THE FIRST TIME 1934.

Miss E. M. Clarkson has given me the following information :—

				1934.	1935.
Malnutrition	...	...	...	27	29
Bronchitis	...	...	...	4	5
Corneal Ulcer	...	...	...	2	1
Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	1	2
Blepharitis	...	...	...	24	20
Impetigo	...	...	...	103	121
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	90	125
Enlarged tonsils	...	...	...	18	9
Adenoids	...	...	...	2	Nil
Anaemia and Debility	...	...	...	17	64
Heart disease	...	...	...	4	3
Enlarged Cervical glands	...	...	...	9	9
Otitis Media	...	...	...	25	31
Scabies	...	...	...	16	8
Minor injury	...	...	...	81	116
Chorea	...	...	...	2	1
Flat feet	...	...	...	2	2
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	Nil	6
Ringworm	...	...	...	Nil	1
Total children examined				426	553

The minor ailments continue to attend the clinic between 9 a.m and 10 a.m. until cured.

Cleanliness Inspections at Northfleet Schools.

Routine examinations for verminous conditions are carried out at least three times a year and the verminous children re-examined at frequent intervals.

Total number of boys examined	4295	Boys found verminous	24	
Total number of girls examined	4545	Girls found verminous	122	

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1935.

To the Chairman and Members of the Northfleet Urban
District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS,

I herewith submit my Annual Report for 1935.

Primary visits and inspections	2,942
Secondary visits and inspections	1,069
Preliminary or Informal Notices served	538
Statutory Notices served	40

The tabulated list below gives particulars of matters dealt with :—

Accumulation of offensive matter	3
Animals—nuisance and injurious to health	2
Blocked drains cleared	13
Cesspools repaired	2
Defective Chimneys	7
„ Doors	27
„ Door sills	8
„ Eavesgutters and fall pipes	33
„ Floors	15
„ Plastering	33
„ Pointing	12
„ Roofs	34
„ Sash cords	19
„ Ventilation shafts	6
„ W.C's structurally	9
„ Walls	34
„ Wash coppers	5
„ Water fittings	9
„ Windows—causing want of ventilation	28
„ Window sills	9
„ Yard gullies	6
„ Yard paving	12
Distempering or limewashing	28
House drains re-constructed	22
House drains repaired	14
New flushing arrangements	221
„ Sanitary dust bins	125
„ Sinks and sink waste pipes	16
„ Stoves for proper preparation of food	11
„ Underlinings to roof	14
„ W.C. pans and traps	220
„ W.C's erected	12
Overcrowding	2
Rooms stripped and cleansed	26
Under floor ventilation	7
Infection with vermin	5
Objectionable structures	6
Houses re-conditioned	20
Miscellaneous	5

Testing Drains.

Ten sets of drains were submitted to the smoke test ; the defects found were remedied after service of the usual notices.

Infectious Disease Prevention.

Ninety-five houses have been disinfected and 840 articles of clothing treated at the steam disinfecter.

Meat and Food Inspection.

11 cwt. of Tuberculous Meat and 40 lbs. of Fish were condemned and destroyed.

Slaughter Houses.

These are generally inspected during killing operations. They have been found in a very clean and well-kept condition.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

These have been inspected at various times, and were found clean, orderly and well-kept.

Prosecutions.

There were no prosecutions during the year.

Rats and Mice Destruction Order Act, 1919.

The refuse tip belonging to the Council has been regularly baited during the year, and Rat Poison is supplied to any householder on request where traces of rats are discovered. In all cases caution and instructions are given as to laying of the baits.

Cesspool System.

During the year there have been removed 608 loads of 800 gallons, equal to 2,128 tons, the cost working out at 3/- per ton.

With the exception of Portland Road, the main drainage should be looked upon as completed.

The Rural portion that are likely for remaining on the cesspool system for some years is, Downs Road, Lewis Road, Istead Rise, Wrotham Road and Ifield Court, to which must be added Portland Road, which is in abeyance until a definite decision is arrived at.

It cannot be expected to carry out the work with horse-drawn vans strictly in the rural area under 4/6d. per ton, and this figure is within the estimate allowed.

House Refuse Collection.

5,196 tons of refuse were removed during the year. In the early part of the year, the Perry Street area was worked by the Council's own horses. The transfer from horse-drawn carts to a 6 cubic yards motor lorry was carried out in May.

The average period of collection during the year was 7 days for the Perry Street area, and 8 days for the Northfleet and Rosher-ville section.

In the first two months of 1936, the 7 days period had become again established.

A monthly collection is made from the outlying parts of the district.

The cost works out at £120 per 1,000 of the population, and is below the average working costs of other towns similarly placed.

House Refuse Disposal.

The whole of our refuse is dealt with under the principle of controlled tipping. The site is a piece of marsh land near to the Council's Sewage Works and forming practically part of same. The tip is always under control and fenced in, the material being covered in regular layers.

The cost of disposal works out at £20 per 1,000 of the population.

The cost of collection and disposal works out at 9/-d. per ton.

Small-Pox Hospital, etc.

The Council are in course of completing a Joint Hospital arrangement for treatment of Small-pox in the Hollingbourn area.

It would be profitable for the Council to consider converting the present Small-pox Hospital into some useful purpose. Whilst the building is unoccupied depreciation and damage is very rapid. There is always a demand for one or two small cottages at a reasonable rent to which it could be adapted.

Overcrowding Survey under the Housing Act, 1935.

This work was started in September and progress has continued to ascertain the extent of overcrowding throughout the district.

I was anxious to get the inspection completed before March 31st, as on this day my term of Sanitary Inspectorship with the Council terminates.

3,984 houses have been inspected, and recorded, and the permitted number of persons entered in accordance with the Overcrowding Standard laid down by the Housing Act, 1935.

It is pleasant to record that no opposition has been experienced from owners or tenants in obtaining particulars of their homes, and as to ages was at times somewhat delicate, but with a little help and suggestion this was pleasantly got over.

As a result of the preliminary survey, 37 cases of overcrowding have been found, which is a very small number indeed in a district of just under 18,000 population.

Quite 50% of them are only just over the boundary line as laid down by the Act. In many of the cases in a few months time the elder members of the family will be becoming married, and leave home, and thus place some of the homes outside the ban of being overcrowded.

Conveniences, etc.

The Mortuary, Drinking Fountains, and Public Conveniences are kept clean by the Health Department under my supervision.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and Health Committee for the kindness and help I have received at their hands, and especially so, with this being my last Annual Report after 23 years, and naturally as an Health Officer I feel proud to state that in the whole of this time I have not lost one week's sickness away from work.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient Servant,
JOHN DYSON,
Sanitary Inspector.

